ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-Nineth Annual Session

OF THE

Yellow Creek Baptist Association.

HELD WITH

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

September 30, and October 1, and 2, 1899.

OFFICERS:

Eld. T. W. Shelton, Moderator,	Sizemore, Ala.
J. M. Hankins, Clerk and Treasurer,	Blowhorn, Ala
John B. Woods, Corresponding Secretary,	Bell, Ala

The next session of this Association will convene with Pleasant Grove church, Marion county, Alabama 4 miles east of Hamilton, on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October 1900.

Lamar Democrat Print: Vernon, Ala.

Received of J. M. Hankins for printing 500 copies of these minutes $10.50. *Lamar Democrat.*

PROCEEDINGS

Of the 39th Annual Session of the Yellow Creek Baptist Association.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The 39th Annual Session of the Yellow Creek Baptist Association was held with Mt. Zion Baptist Church, September 30th, and October 1st, and 2nd, 1899.

According to previous arrangement, the introductory sermon was preached at 11 o'clock by Elder T. W. Shelton, from Heb. 7:25. Subject: Priestly office of Christ. The Association was adjourned one hour.

EVENING SESSION.

The body was called together by the former Moderator. John M. Hanking acting as temporary Clerk. N. L. Trull and J. A. Armstrong read letters from different churches, and names of delegates were enrolled. (See Statistics.)

Petitionary letters were called for. None.

The result of permanent organization was: T. W. Shelton, Moderator; John M. Hankins, Clerk; John B. Woods, Corresponding Secretary.

Committee were appointed as follows:

On Devotion—I. J. Smith, T. L. Godfrey, J. H. Barnes, with deacons of Mt. Zion church.

On Sunday Schools—J. F. Woods, O. P. Godfrey, John B. Woods.

On Ministerial Education—B. E. Cunningham, S M. Waldrop, W. B. Jordan.

On Missions—N. L. Trull, J. W. Northcutt, M Trim.

On Nominations—W. F. Blair, D. T. Allen, J. W. Abbott.

On Finance—J. A. Armstrong, F. M. Goodson, John Gilmer.

On Documents—N. L. Trull, W. H. Webb, W. J Godfrey.

On Arraugements—B. E. Cunningham, W. C. Woods, N. L. Trull, A. Pennington.

On Literature—Kirk Pennington, S. R. Smith, Jack Woods.

On Temperance—W. D. Williams, A. J. Smith, Aaron Godfrey.

On Digest of Church Letters—J. H. Barnes, W. B. Hankins, N. S. Partaine.

REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE.

We your committee on devotion report as follows: B. E. Cunningham will preach at 9:30 and T. W. Shelton at 11 o'clock Sunday morning.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet at 8:30 o'clock Monday morning.

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SUNDAY SERVICES.

Preaching as reported by the Devotional Committee, and also night services, as follows: Preaching at Harmony Grove by Elder T. W. Shelton, and at the York School House by Elder A. Pennington.

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MONDAY MORNING.

The Association was called together by singing and prayer led by Brother Freeman. The Moderator declared the body ready for business.

On motion the regular order of business was dropped to hear the reading of the letter from Spring Hill church.

Correspondence: Brother Freeman was received from New River Association. Returned to New River Association, S. M. Waldrop, A. Pennington, T. J. Godfrey, W. C. Wood, B. E. Cunningham, S. E. Pennington, H. J. D. Hendricks.

To Union Association, W. J. Godfrey, W. W. Smith, B. E. Cunningham, Kirk Pennington, S. D. Coleman, S. M. Waldrop, H. J. D. Hendricks, I. J. Smith, T. J. Godfrey, T. W. Shelton, S. E. Pennington

To Sipsy (south): D. A. Andrews, B. E. Cunningham, H. J. D. Hendricks, T. W. Shelton, J. A. Armstrong, and W. J. Godfrey.

On motion the Association declined to correspond with Harmony Grove Baptist Association because it recognized Sparks Baptists' baptism. Also correspondence with Sipsy (west) was dropped for same reason as above.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENT.

Your committee on arrangments report as follows:

1st. Call for correspondence,

2nd. Return correspondence.

3rd. Report of committee on arrangements,

4th. Report of committee on ministerial education,

5th. Report of committee on Sunday Schools.

6th. Report of ex-missionary board,

7th. Report of missionaries.

8th. Report of colporter.

9th. Report of committee on missions.

10th. Report of committee on finance.

11th. Report of committee on nominations.

12th. Report of treasurer.

13th. Report of committee on documents.

14th. Report of committee or temperance.

15th. Report of committee on literature.

16th. Report of district meetings,

17th. Miscellaneous business.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee on ministerial education beg leave

to report as follows: We heartily endorse ministerial education, and for the benefit of the ministry, recommend that the association and churches look well to this part of their duty. It is our duty to educate, only those who have been called of God to preach the gospel

B. E. Cunningham, Chairman.

REPORT OF CGMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sunday Schools report that this Association and the churches within its bounds ought to put forth greater effort toward the upbuilding of Sunday Schools. J. F. Woods, Chairman.

REPORT OF EX-MISSIONARY BOARD.

Your committee begs to report that we met in April and engaged Elds. W C Woods and T W Shelton to preach from about the 15th of July to about the 15th of September We find that many places within our bounds are without the gospel, and, therefore, urge that the Association adopt some more efficient plan of extending the gospel to those localities.

I. J. Smith, Chairman.

REPORT OF MISSIONARIES.

As your servants, in response to the missionary board, we began work about the 15th of July and closed about the 15th of September. We visited both churches and destitute places, doing the best we could under the circumstances. We found some churches in need of a revival of religion; some destitution we have not visited on account of our limited time. We labored in all, at least, six weeks. W. C. Woods.

T. W. Shelton.

REPORT OF COLPORTER.

Dear brethren:—On account oy unavoidable circumstances my work on this line is not so extensive as it was last year; but I have distributed a considerable number of both Bibles and Hymn books, and also about 1000pp tracts. I believe there is still great necessity of the continuation of this work. W. C. Woods

Colporter.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your committee on missions offer the following report: The command of Him, who had all power in

heaven and in earth, was to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature; and since we learn from Divine revelation, that the gospel is God's power of salvation to every one that believeth we may easily and readily see the necessity of obeying this command. We urge that the churches of this Association do give more liberally of their material means to the spread of the gospel of our Saviour. Respectfully submitted,

N. L. Trull, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your committee on finance submit the following report: Collected from the different churches

(a) For Minutes.....$25.95.
(b) For Missions.....76.35.
Received from former Treasurer.....4.85.
Total.....$107.15.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Armstrong, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS,

Your committee report that Elder B. E. Cunningham preach the next introductory sermon, with Elder S. M. Waldrop as alternate. W. F. Blair, Chairman.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

To the Yellow Creek Baptist Association:

The undersigned respectfully submits the following as his report for the past year:

Received from finance committee.....$26.05.
Paid for printing minutes.....$10.40.
Paid express on same.....45.
Paid postage in all.....1.90.
Paid for blank Associational letters.....57.
Received for my services.....10.00.
Total balance on hand last year..... 2.10.
$23.32..$28.15.
Balance on hand.....$4.83.

E. B. Guin, Treasurer.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DIGEST OF LETTERS.

Your committee submit the following: We find only 23 of the 28 churches represented; three Sunday Schools; received by baptism, 41; received by letter, 32; restored, 3, dismissed by letter 22, excluded, 25, deceased, 20; total present membership, 1189.

J. H. Barnes, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee begs to report the following: We urge our brethren to bodly discountenance dram-drinking, and to zealously oppose its manufacture and sale, that not only the church may be edified, but that the morals of our country also may be on higher plains.

W. D. Williams, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE.

Your committee begs leave to submit the following: We recommend the Alabama Baptist, the Texas Baptist Standard and the American Baptist Flag as sound in doctrine, and urgently request the brethren to read said papers that they may keep informed on the movements of the baptist family. We also recommend the Sunday School literature published by the Southern Baptist Publication Society. W. K. Pennington

Chairman.

REPORT OF DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The First District will convene with Prospect church on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in July, 1900. Introductory sermon will be preached by Elder T. W. Shelton. First question: Was the atonement made for Adam's apostate race? will be opened by Elder S. M. Waldrop. Second question: What is the Bible doctrine of sanctification? will be opened by Elder W. C. Woods. Third question: From under what law did Christ redeem us? will be opened by Elder B. E. Cunningham, Jas. W. Woods, Clerk.

Report of second district was not received. But next Association will convene with Pleasant Grove church four miles east of Hamilton, Marion county, Ala., on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1900.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS

Your committee on documents submit the following: We find only one item claiming the attention of the Association—a query from Fellowship church, which we recommend discussed. N. L. Trull.

Chairman.

NOTE: This report by mistake was omitted in its order. Clerk.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion the missionary board was abolished. A motion then carried to elect a missionary for the ensuing year to labor for six months at such places, within the bounds of this Association, as he shall judge best for the cause of Christ. He is especially requested to preach at Vernon once a month.

On motion the clerk was requested to insert the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith in these minutes.

On motion the clerk was authorized to have 500 copies of these minutes printed; to reserve 50 copies for correspondence; and to reserve $8.00 for his services

On motion J. M. Hankins was elected treasurer, and authorized to pay over to the missionaries all money sent up for that purpose.

Elder W. C. Woods was retained as Colporter for this Association.

Elder W. C. Woods was sent to the Southern Baptist Convention and Elders T. W. Shelton and B. E. Cunningham were sent to the Alabama State convention.

Resolution: The thanks of this body are due and hereby most heartily tendered to the members of Mt. Zion church, and to the good citizens of the community, for their loving kindness and exceptional hospitality extended to us during our pleasant sojourn among them.

The following amounts were subscribed by the churches for missionary purposes during the ensuing year:

South Carolina	$5.00
Bethabara	5.00
Mt. Zion	5.00
Walnut Grove	5.00
Fellowship	5.00
Shiloh	10.00
Blooming Grove	5.00
Friendship	3.00
Pleasant Ridge	2.50
Bethel (Fayette county)	5.00
Mulberry Springs	5.00
Big Springs	2.50

Meadow Branch	5.00
Union Chapel	3.00
Zion	5.00
Prospect	5.00
Corrinth	2.50
J. F. Sanders (individual)	1.00
Antioch	2.00
Spring Hill	5.00
Love Joy	1.00
Liberty	2.50
Total	$90.00

A motion carried to adjourn to meet at Pleasant Grove church, 4 miles east of Hamilton, on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1900. Prayer was led by Elder W. C. Woods and the meeting closed with the accustomed parting hand. All seemed to realize the improbability of their meeting again on earth; but we know that Christ still liveth, and that one time he will gather his sheep into one fold where parting shall be no more, ELD. T. W. SHELTON. MODERATOR. JOHN M. HANKINS, CLERK.

CONSTITUTION.

Article. 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our Union, who, on producing letters certifying their appointment shall take their seats.

Art. 2. This Association shall be known by the name of the Yellow Creek Baptist Association, and shall have the privillige of carrying out missionary operations according to the Scriptural plan of conducting missions. Yet, so that members are left free, and that giving or withholding shall not be a bar to fellowship.

Art. 3. This Association shall usurp no authority over the churches in our Union, nor infringe any of their internal rights, but shall merely be considered an advisory council in all matters relative to their eternal concern.

Art. 4. The principal business of this Association will be to endeavor to promote harmony in the churches composing it, and the Association or deliberative bodies with which it may correspond, and in general to dispense such gospel truths as may tend to root out error and promote the declarative glory of God.

Art. 5. The delegates shall produce to the Association letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment as delegates, and also, containing a statistical table of their respective churches.

Art. 6. Each church is entitled to three delegates from the laity, with the privillige of sending her ministers,

Art. 7. New churches may be admitted into our union by delegates bearing petitionary letters; if upon due examination they be found orderly and orthodox, the moderator shall manifest their admission by giving delegates the right hand in token of fellowship.

Art. 8. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.

Art. 9. At every session of the Association, a Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by and from the delegates present, who shall serve until successors are elected.

ART. 10. This Association admits the right of any one of the churches composing it, to withdraw at any time from the body without assigning any reason for so doing, but she claims the power to withdraw from and disown any church which departs from the principles of this compact, by becoming either heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice.

ART. 11. Every query sent by a particular church must be enclosed in a letter.

ART. 12. This Asseciation may have a fund to be raised by the voluntary contributions of the churches or individuals, which funds shall be placed in the hands of the treasurer, and paid out by order of the Moderator at the discretion of the Association.

ART. 13. The Association shall elect a treasurer annually, whose duty it shall be to take charge of the Association fund, and pay out the same agreeable to order, and make at every session a fair and full report of all monies thus received—the expenditures and the surplus on hand, if there be any, which report shall be spread upon the minutes.

ART. 14. The Association shall not adjourn any session until it shall have finished all business on hand except in extraordinary cases.

ART. 15. It shall be the duty of the clerk of the Association to keep a regular file of the printed minutes of every session of this body, and upon a change of officers the late clerk shall deliver such file to his successor in office.

ART. 16. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any session of this body by a majority of the votes of the delegates present.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. A moderator and clerk shall be elected by ballot, who shall serve one year.

3. The moderator shall be considered a judge of order and shall have the right to call to order at any time.

4. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other time.

5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and on obtaining permission proceed.

6. The moderator when addressed for permission to speak shall signify his assent by naming the person or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject or use words of personal reflection.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

9. Every case taken up by the Association shall be acted upon, or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

10. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for discussion, the moderator shall take the voice of the Association in such mode as he may determine; and he shall announce the decision of the body immediately.

11. No member shall speak but once upon the same proposition, till every member wishing to speak shall have spoken, and not more than twice, without leave of the Association, nor shall any proposition be made to close the discussion until the discussion shall have been carried through.

12. The appellation of brother shall be used in the association by members in their addresses one to another.

13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. Any member having to retire, shall obtain permission of the moderator.

15. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privillige in discussion as anyother member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided

16. It shall be the duty of the moderator to ap-

point all committees for the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; and He is triune in His nature, and revealed under the personal and revelative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

2. We believe the scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the word of God, the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and the universal corruption of human nature, and the incapacity of man to recover himself of his own freewill and ability.

4. We believe in the doctrine of election, accordto the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit unto obedience; and that God chose His people in Christ before the foundation of the world.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God solely through the redemption and righteousness of Jesus Christ.

6, We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and justified by the Holy Spirit.

7. We believe that the saints shall be preserved in grace and kept by the power of God, and not one of them shall be finally lost.

8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of baptism; and that immersion in water is the apostolic and only mode.

9. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the gospel, but one who is regularly baptised, called and has come under the imposition of the hands of a presbytery.

10. We believe that none but regularly baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

11 We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

12. We believe that Jesus Christ authorized and organized the Baptist christians while he was here upon this earth and that the baptism of John, the Kingdom he preached, and the Baptists, his successors as to organization, were from Heaven; and that there has been a regular succession of baptists until now, which have preserved pure the doctrines of the gospel through all ages; and the gates of hell never have, nor never shall successfully prevail against them.

Statistics of the Yellow Creek Baptist Association 1899.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERK'S P. O.	DELEGATES.	Sunday Meetings	Baptised	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Deceased	Present Number	For Minutes	For Missions
South Carolina	A. Pennington	R. H. Ward	Highlogy, Ala	R H Ward, S R Smith, Aaron Godfrey, A Pennington	1	5	4	2				29	70	
Bethabra	W. C. Woods	D. T. Allen	Cody	D T Allen	3			7		1	1	54	1.75	5.00
Mt. Zion	W. J. Beaty	T. T. Williams	Highlogy	T T & W D Williams B McDaniel	1	5			1		2	47	.90	
Walnut Grove	B. E. Cunningham	H. Strickland	Millport	John McGee, L I McGee, W W Smith	1							43	1.00	2.00
Fellowship	A. Pennington	J. K. Thomas	Arcola	J F Woods, D B Hankins, B E Cunningham	2		3		2		1	69	1.50	5.00
Shiloh		T. M. Woods	Bell	W C Woods, John B Woods	1		1				3	75	2.00	10 00
Blooming Grove	T. W. Shelton	J. B. Black	Blowhorn	T W Shelton I J Smith, W H Smith J M Hankins	3	1	3		1			60	1.25	5.00
Friendship	" "	W. F. Blair	Wofford	W F Blair, W B Jordan S E Pennington	1		1	2	4		1	50	1.00	
Pleasant Ridge	B. E. Cunningham	J. F. Blair	Gattman Miss	Thomas Merchant, T E McGill	3				1		3	47	.75	2.50
Bethel (Fayette Co.)	J. F. Willis	J. H. Barnes	Cain Ala	J M South J H Barnes	3							46	1.30	5.00
Mulbery Springs	T. W. Shelton	J. A. Armstrong	Moscow	J A Armstrong, Steve Taylor	4	7	3		1			50	1.00	2.50
Big Springs	A. Pennington	J. L. Smith		C w Scison, J w Abbott	2			6	5		1	32	1.00	
Vernon				Not represented										
Corrinth	T. W. Shelton	F. M. Harrison	Bedford	J w McAdams J P Reeves	2	6						30	.75	2.50
Meadow Branch	J. F. Willis	N. L. Trull	Kennedy	S M waldrop N L Trull w J Godfrey D A Andrews	3		1		1			32	.75	3.00
Nall's Chapel				Not represented										
Prospect	A. Pennington	A. J. Smith	Baxter	T M Goodson N S Partaine	3	2					1	16	1.00	5.00
2ND DISTRICT.														
Antioch	D. W. Dickinson	M. Trim	Mansfield	M Trim T F Stanford, John Rainwater	1		1	1	2		1	15	1.00	2.00
Spring Hill	S. M. Waldrop	J. W. Price	Bluff	J w Price	2	1		2	1		1	67	1.25	3.20
Love Joy	W. C. Woods	L. M. Smith	Guin	D w Robertson	1		1					13	.50	
Union Chapel	N. E. Johnson	J. J. Weeks	Pharos	w H webb	1	9	1	1			1	54	1.25	1.50
Green Springs	A. A. Gay J. T. Flippo	N. U. Wilson	Ur	J R wilson	4	6	3					51	1.20	1.00
Pleasant Grove				Not represented										
Zion	A. W. Green	D. W. Bowlan	Guin	J w Northcutt S E ward	4	2	3	1	1	2	4	87	1.95	5.55
Liberty	J. A. Trim	M. D. Palmer	Detroit	J Lucas w M Finch	2	1						43	1.00	2.00
Bethel (Marion Co.)	A. W. Green	H. A. Summer	Brinn	J J Cooke	4	1	6		1			91	1.25	
Salem				Not represented										
Shady Grove				Not represented										